Al Feinberg

Brief Bio

Al Feinberg has served the agency's Office of Communication in multiple capacities since joining NASA in late 2002: Public Affairs Officer and Headquarters media spokesperson supporting the agency's response to the Space Shuttle Columbia accident; Senior Producer for NASA Television, also in Washington, D.C.; Kennedy Space Center's TV Executive Producer and Division Chief for Multimedia and Operations; and, currently in Integration Support for KSC's Office of Education Projects and Youth Engagement. Prior to his NASA service, Al enjoyed a successful, 20-year career in TV news as an Emmy- and Edward R. Murrow Award-winning reporter and anchor. He and his wife live in Dunedin, Florida with their two lovely daughters.

Ali Shaykhian, a National Administrator Fellowship Program (NAFP) fellow, is an engineer with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Kennedy Space Center (KSC), Information Technology (IT) Directorate. Ali has earned a Ph.D. degree in Operations Research from Florida Institute of Technology (FIT), a Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Engineering and a second Master of Science in Industrial Engineering degree, both from University of Central Florida. His research interests include data mining and knowledge discovery, software safety, and optimization algorithms. Ali teaches part-time graduate courses in Computer Information Systems at Florida Institute of Technology. He is a professional member of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE); and enjoys being a grand-nanny, spending time with their three grandchildren (Kyran, Nahla and Shayda).

Amanda Griffin joined Kennedy Space Center in 2009, and currently works as a public affairs specialist in the Communication and Public Engagement office. Amanda has a bachelor's degree in communications and a master's in public relations and was a public affairs specialist in the Army Reserve. While serving her country, Amanda spent more than three years stationed in Germany, and was deployed to Hungary for 9 months as an Army journalist. Before coming to NASA, she worked for the headquarters of the Catholic Church in D.C. for seven years and then owned and ran a skateboard shop in Melbourne, Fla. for two years. Originally from Chesterfield, Virginia, Amanda now resides in Viera, Fla. with her husband and two children. She spends most of her free time coaching softball.

Angelo B. Thomas
Student Intern (Education)
John F. Kennedy Space Center

Mr. Thomas is an Education Doctoral candidate with NOVA Southeastern University. He earned his master's degree in Adult and Higher Education from the University of Oklahoma and his undergraduate degree is in Information Systems Management from the University of Maryland University College. Prior to joining NASA and the Kennedy Space Center Team, Mr. Thomas worked as a Facility Maintenance Supervisor for the Brevard Public Schools.

Short Bio on Bruce M. Wiegmann of NASA MSFC

Bruce M. Wiegmann grew up outside of Weirton, West Virginian, which is an Upper Ohio Valley steel mill town, during the 'Apollo Years' of the 1960s and early 1970s. Over his 33-year NASA career, Mr. Wiegmann worked in many areas of aerospace engineering at Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) and Glenn Research Center (GRC). I spent many years as a test engineer at MSFC's 14 inch Transonic Wind Tunnel in the early 1980's. In the mid-1980s, I worked within the "Space Station Freedom" Habitation Module. During the Space Exploration Initiative (SEI) in the late 1980s to mid-1990s, I participated in many "Earth to Orbit" and "Lunar and Mars Exploration" architectural studies for manned exploration missions. In 1998, I transferred to NASA/GRC where I worked as a systems engineer with the International Space Station (ISS) Flywheel Energy Storage System (FESS) project and supported the Power and Actuation subsystem technology development programs for the Space Launch Initiative (SLI). Upon returning to MSFC in 2002, I was active in the Space Launch Initiative (SLI), the Orbital Space Plane Program (OSP), the Nuclear Electric Propulsion (NEP) Prometheus Mission led by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and the Ares I project where I authored the Ares I Margin Management Plan.

For the past eight years, I have supported the MSFC Advanced Concepts Office leading studies relating to: 1) On-orbit debris removal, 2) Electrodynamic Tethers, 3) Cost effective methods to get NASA Research and Technology payloads to orbit on a routine basis, and 4) Electric Sail propulsion technology formulation and demonstration efforts. I am the Principle Investigator (PI) for a 2015 NASA Phase II NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) from NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate. I am the first MSFC recipient to win a Phase II NIAC award.

Chris Giersch is the Education and Public Outreach Manager for the Space Technology and Exploration Directorate at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA. He graduated from Penn State University with a BS degree in Aerospace Engineering and from Old Dominion University with a MS degree in Secondary Education.

After working as a high school math and science teacher for a number of years, Chris accepted the position at NASA Langley as Program Manager for NASA CONNECT™, the show that connects you to math, science, technology, and NASA. He worked on 20 episodes over a five-year span winning three regional Emmy Awards. Chris transferred to the Exploration Office in 2004. Since then, he has been proactive in getting the public engaged to learn more about the US Space Exploration Policy. Chris is the co-creator, project manager, and host of NASA EDGE, the vodcast that takes an inside and outside look at all things NASA. The award-winning vodcast has been downloaded over 55 million times since 2007 with over 135 titles.

Chris currently resides in Virginia Beach, VA with his wife and son.

Chris is a member of the Goddard Space Flight Center Software Systems Engineering Branch. He is currently assigned to the Exploration and Space Communications Division, where he serves as a systems engineering project manager. His project is building several ground stations to provide launch communications for the Agency's Orion crew capsule and Space Launch System rocket. He started his career in industry, and has been with NASA for five years. This is his third year as a judge for the paper competition.

Dan Hull joined NASA in 2006 as a project manager in the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Construction of Facilities division. He's served in multiple roles, including lead design engineer, construction manager, project manager, and program manager. Dan is currently the senior project manager on the Modify VAB HB-3 for SLS project.

He holds a BS in Civil Engineering, a MS in Structural Engineering and Mechanics, and a Professional Engineer license in the state of Florida. When Dan is not at work, he is likely running, cycling, or hanging out with his wife (Bethanne), daughter (Angelina), and 90 lb Malamute mix "puppy" (Merlin).

David Reeves is an Aerospace Engineer in the Space Mission Analysis Branch at NASA Langley. He holds a bachelor's degree in Engineering Physics from the University of Oklahoma and a master's degree in Aerospace Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He has worked vehicle design and mission operations planning for multiple human exploration studies. For the last three years he has been working on the Asteroid Redirect Mission. His primary focus has been on the proximity operations and planetary defense demonstration operations, and most recently, he served as the Analysis and Integration Lead on the ARM Formulation Assessment and Support Team.

Denise Coleman moved to Florida from Syracuse, NY, during the big start-up of the US space program in the 1960's. She was privileged to watch the Satern V rockets of the Apollo program fly over her school playground, and then grew up and got her own job at the Kennedy Space Center. She was given an opportunity to be part of such greatness by supporting the entire Space Shuttle program, from first to last launch. She worked in several different organizations throughout her career, from Launch Processing Systems, Safety and Mission Assurance, Public Affairs, External Relations, and most recently the Education Projects Office. She is now looking forward to supporting the new missions and direction NASA is going in, as well as interacting with the students who are going to be part of that future.

Dennis Rohn is the Chief of the Aeronautics and Ground-Based System Branch at the NASA Glenn Research Center, overseeing the work of 20 systems engineers and configuration management specialists. In addition, he has 25 years of experience in the development and operation of microgravity experiments on the Space Shuttle and International Space Station. Mr. Rohn served for many years as the Chief Engineer for the development of the Fluids and Combustion Facility, which has been conducting science onboard the International Space Station since 2008. Mr. Rohn had been a participant in the NASA Systems Engineering Working Group and led efforts to infuse model based systems engineering across the Agency. He is an active member of the International Council on Systems Engineering, and is a past Chair of its Space Systems Working Group.

Don Edwards, Engineering Manager, Caterpillar Automation and Enterprise Solutions Research
Don leads a distributed team of engineers developing remote control, semi-autonomous and fully autonomous machine system and work site management technologies that enhance safety, productivity and sustainability at our customers' job sites. He has an MSME from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and has championed automation and simulation technologies at Caterpillar for 28 years.

Jonathan Drew Smith received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from The University of North Florida in 2009. He has been with Kennedy Space Center for 5 years. Currently he is working in the KSC Surface System Office, NE-S. Prior to NE-S he worked in the KSC Institutional Engineering Safety division where he led teams to define hazardous operations and implemented mitigating controls for cryogenics as well as many other tests and operations. Currently within NE-S he is working on percussive excavation technology to reduce excavation forces for low mass excavators in reduced gravity. He also is the RASSOR design team lead and is developing zero net reaction force excavating technology for micro excavators in reduced and micro gravity.

Mr. George Salazar received his Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Houston and his Masters of Science in Systems Engineering from Southern Methodist University. He has over 30 years of experience in telemetry, communications, speech control, command and data handling, audio, displays and controls, intelligent lighting, project management, and systems engineering. He has been involved with the design of advanced telemetry, voice recognition and intelligent systems of which he has received various patents. He is currently serving at NASA's Johnson Space Center as the Human Computer Interface Technical Discipline Lead to develop advanced human interfaces as well as serving as the Displays and Controls Subsystem Manager for the Commercial Crew Program. He is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas. And, he is a Certified Systems Engineer Professional through the International Council on Systems Engineering.

Jane Mosconi has worked a variety of jobs for NASA/KSC including Shuttle Logistics where she bought propulsion systems and managed the budget for spare parts. She holds a bachelor and master's degrees. For the past several years she has been in the External Relations group on the team that worked with the Visitor Complex and heading up major events. She is now involved with KSC Exhibits, Speakers Bureau and the Space Flight Awareness program. She has worked with various elements of the Robotic Mining Competition. She is excited to be involved in judging the Outreach which incorporates her passion for communicating and increasing interest in STEM activities and NASA

Jeff has supported NASA and NOAA satellite development and operations for the past 28 years as a systems engineer and project/program manager. He currently works at the Goddard Space Flight Center as NASA's Project Manager for the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) mission. For the past 11 years, Jeff has also served as an adjunct professor at Capitol College in Maryland, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate classes in Systems Engineering and Spacecraft Design. His other academic work has been as a contributing author to a number of text books, including: "Space Mission Engineering: The New SMAD", and "Reducing the Cost of Spacecraft Ground Systems and Operations". Jeff also had the opportunity in 2014 to serve as the instructor for an on-line System Engineering class co-sponsored by NASA and the Saylor Academy. The remainder of his time is spent either on his road/mountain bikes or cheering on the Washington Wizards with his son Joe.

Jeppie Compton
National Project Manager, NASA EPSCoR

Jeppie Compton is the NASA National Project Manager for NASA Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). He is a retired Air Force officer having served as a weather forecaster, climatologist, commander, and Chief, Atmospheric Modeling and Remote Sensing Division, HQ AWS. Served in the Space Shuttle Program Office, DMSP Program Office, GPS Program Office, CSOC Program Office and the DSP Program Office. Also had 10 years' experience as Aircraft Mechanic on multiple aircraft.

He holds a BS in Meteorology from the University of Utah and an MS in Meteorology from St. Louis University. He has attended various military schools including Naval War College, Air War College and Squadron Officers School.

James Schier Bio

Jim Schier is currently the Chief Architect for NASA's Space Communications and Navigation Program where he leads studies defining the evolution of NASA's space communications networks to meet the needs of future science and human exploration missions. He joined NASA in 2004 after 25 years in industry where he worked on civil, defense, intelligence, and commercial space systems. At Northrop Grumman, he supported the National Reconnaissance Office in architecting our nation's network of reconnaissance satellites. Mr. Schier was Chief System Engineer on the International Space Station (ISS) at Grumman. His ISS responsibilities included system engineering of robotic systems leading to the Robotic System Integration Standards. At TRW, Mr. Schier managed flight software development on the MILSTAR Communications Satellite, integrated Shuttle Spacelab 3 materials processing experiments, and studied robotic concepts for the ISS Flight Telerobotic Servicer. He holds degrees in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering.

After graduating B.S. Electronics & Communications Engineering from the University of the Philippines in 2001, Josephine Santiago-Bond landed her first engineering job at Daktronics, Inc. designing sport products, and was accepted into the M.S. Electrical Engineering program at South Dakota State University. In 2003, she spent a summer at NASA Kennedy Space Center as an intern and converted into a permanent employee in 2004. She worked as an electrical engineer on new technologies, KSC ground systems design, and ground systems operations for the Space Shuttle Program and Ares I-X. She worked as a systems engineer for KSC ground systems design and for the LADEE mission at Ames Research Center. She holds a graduate certificate in Space Systems Engineering, and is a graduate of the NASA SELDP and FIRST leadership development programs. She currently serves as a systems engineer for the RESOLVE payload project under the Resource Prospector mission, and chair of the Asian Pacific American Connection Employee Resource Group at KSC.

Jonette Stecklein is the Deputy Manager for the Exploration Mission Planning Office at NASA Johnson Space Center. She is also a member of NASA's agency-wide team, the Human Space Flight Architecture Team (HAT). Her technical focus is defining and prioritizing the technology advancements needed to better implement missions to the asteroids, the moon, and Mars. Previously, she led the technology development activities for the Lunar Surface Systems Project Office in NASA's Constellation Program.

As a member of the NASA International Space Station (ISS) team, Ms. Stecklein led efforts within all phases of the ISS Program lifecycle, including as Requirements Team Manager, Physical Integration Lead, and Crew Health Care Systems Integrator (defining the customer requirements and acquiring hardware/software systems to be integrated and operated on-board ISS). Prior to joining the ISS Program, Ms. Stecklein worked in JSC's Engineering Directorate as the Chief Engineer and Lead Systems Engineer for the Artemis Common Lunar Lander project, an in-house development of a robotic lunar lander. Ms. Stecklein holds a BS in Aerospace Engineering and an MS in Systems Engineering. She is a founding member of the Texas Gulf Coast chapter of the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE), served as the Chapter President, and has served on the Board of Directors at the international level of INCOSE.

Joshua Santora – NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC)

Joshua grew up in Orlando, FL and, after attending an Engineering, Science, and Technology Magnet program in high school, went on to pursue a Bachelor's degree at the University of Central Florida (UCF). He completed his degree in Mathematics Education in the Winter of 2009 and continued on to earn his Master's in Mathematics Education in the Summer of 2011 from UCF.

During his undergraduate degree, Joshua began working at KSC through an internship with NASA's Digital Learning Network (DLN). After concluding his time with the DLN he became a co-op with NASA, working in support of a variety of K-12 outreach programs that NASA/KSC Education offer. He accepted a full time position with NASA in September of 2011 and worked in the education office until the beginning of 2015.

Joshua is currently transitioning to work in the Public Affairs/Communications office at the Kennedy Space Center.

He is also being kept very busy at home as he and his wife recently welcomed their first child, a boy, Jonah.

Kim Ess

NASA, Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas

Project Manager

28 years of experience in designing, testing, certifying, integrating, operating and managing space-flight hardware and multi-center teams at the NASA. Responsible for the on orbit operation and maintenance of flight hardware and software on the Orbiter and ISS and provided new development of projects on ISS, SSP and MIR ranging from pressurized and unpressurized flight crew equipment and suits to robotic systems. Current Position is Deputy Project Manager for the AES Lander Technology Project that provides lander support for Resource Prospector (a 2020 ISRU project), partners with private industry for lander development through Lunar CATALYST (Cargo transportation and landing by soft touchdown) and Mars Lander development.

Kristian Mueller has 18 years of experience in the aerospace sector, both in manned and unmanned space technology. As a test director for the ISS robotic arm Astronaut training facility at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Kristian obtained detailed knowledge of human space flight while maintaining, operating and improving a 60 foot hydraulically operated replica of the ISS CanadArm2. After having managed the on-site contractor operations for NASA's ER5 branch, he enriched his engineering know how as well as personal life by working 3 years in Switzerland in the design and development of highly dynamic electromechanical actuators for space and aeronautics applications. Kristian recently joined the Honeybee Robotics management team where he has been involved in research and development projects for asteroid and planetary mining and exploration as well as projects for the DOD and the oil and gas industry.

Lisa May is Principal Consultant at Murphian Systems, specializing in systems engineering, project management, strategic planning, and communications. She is a proven leader in delivering complex technologies through clarification of requirements, strategic alignment with customers and markets, and development of effective execution plans. She is also expert in business process reengineering and proposal development and review. Lisa is also active in public engagement and was one of the narrators for NASA's award-winning ScienceCast videos.

Prior to founding Murphian, Lisa was Lead Program Executive for the Mars Exploration Program at NASA Headquarters. Her portfolio included the MAVEN mission to Mars, Mars Sample Return, and Mars Technology Development. Lisa was the Chair of the International Mars Exploration Working Group. She was with NASA for 14 years and worked on missions in every science discipline, from concept through design, launch, and operations.

Prior to joining NASA, Lisa founded and ran Jackson-May Associates, a systems-engineering consulting firm with clients ranging from small technology and major aerospace companies to the National Academy of Sciences to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

Luther "Luke" Setzer, PE is a project manager in NASA's premier robotics mining laboratory know as Swamp Works at Kennedy Space Center. Luke serves as one of RMC's timing judges each year. He participated for the first time last year and loved the boundless enthusiasm, dogged determination and creative genius of the competitors.

Luke has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University, a Master of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineer from the University of Florida and a Master of Business Administration in Project Management from Florida Institute of Technology. His secret super power is the power of abstract reasoning which he employs on a daily basis.

Marc Gramlich Bio
Last Updated 3/18/2016

Marc Gramlich is an Electrical Integration and Test Engineer working at Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company in Littleton, CO. Marc is working on the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites – R Series (GOES-R), the next generation of weather satellites. The GOES-R Series Program is a collaborative development effort between NASA and NOAA to develop, deploy, and operate the satellites with the first of four satellites to launch in October, 2016. Prior to joining Lockheed Martin, Marc designed embedded systems in the biomedical sciences field.

In 2013, Marc received his B.S. in Computer Engineering from West Virginia University. During his time at WVU, Marc worked in a UAV lab developing embedded autopilot systems and helped form the first WVU RMC team leading the electrical team through three successful competitions (2011,'12,'13) as well as two mars rover competitions at NASA JSC. Marc also led the WVU RockSat team through development of experimental payloads that flew on three NASA sounding rockets. As a member of the WVU Microgravity Research Team in 2011, Marc had the opportunity to fly on NASA's "Vomit Comet" testing an electro-magnetically enhanced fluidized bed experiment. Marc also completed two internships at NASA GSFC where he designed hardware for a Space Station experiment and designed a magnetometer experiment for a sounding rocket mission.

Mark Powell

NASA RMC Systems Engineering Paper Judge

Mark Powell is a Senior Lecturer in the Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics Department at the University of Texas at Austin, in addition to serving as an independent Systems Engineering (SE) Consultant for Attwater Consulting. During a career spanning more than four decades, Mr. Powell performed SE on many NASA projects such as Skylab, the Space Shuttle, the International Space Station, and the Constellation Program (CxP), as well as for DoD, DOE, and for commercial entities. Commercial clients have included Hernandez Engineering, Bechtel, Johnson & Johnson, McKinsey & Company, and Jacobs Engineering.

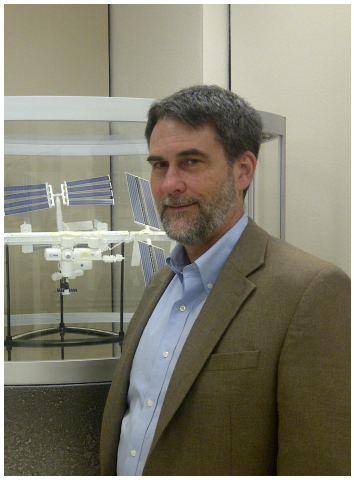
Mr. Powell began teaching SE at the graduate level in 1989, and has served on SE graduate faculties at the Stevens Institute of Technology, the University of Houston, and the University of Idaho where he developed and taught the program leading to the "Masters of Engineering in Systems Engineering" degree. Mr. Powell has been an active member of the International Council on Systems Engineering since 1991, and has served for several years in leadership positions at local chapters as well as at the International level. His current passion focuses on applying state-of-the-art statistical and information theory methods to solving problems that most consider impossible in the areas of risk, reliability, and decision making.

Mary MacLaughlin has an eclectic mix of degrees – Journalism (B.A. & M.A.), Mass Communications & Public Relations (B.A.), Computer Technology (B.S.), and Sustainable Development and Policy (M.A.) – from Purdue University, Indiana University, and the University of Illinois-Springfield. She has worked in the Communication and Public Engagement Directorate as a writer/editor for four years.

A transplant to Florida, Mary grew up in northern Indiana, and she doesn't miss the snow and cold at all. However, she would brave the harsh weather to visit the penguins in Antarctica. She lives on Merritt Island with her wonderful husband and three cats.

Matt Czech is a NASA Test Director in the Ground Systems Development and Operations (GSDO) Program at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC). He graduated from the University of Michigan with a BS degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering and from the Florida Institute of Technology with a MS degree in Space Systems Management. He began his career with NASA in the International Space Station (ISS) Program as a co-op student ultimately accepting a full time position upon graduation. He had the opportunity to work with many of NASA's international partners during ISS assembly including leading the pre-launch installation and recovery of payload experiments from the Space Shuttle immediately upon landing. After ISS assembly was complete and the Space Shuttle was retired he began work with GSDO. He led the team that defined the initial ground systems concept of operations for assembly and integration of the Space Launch System (SLS) and Orion upon arrival at KSC. Today his duties include developing the plans necessary to test the various elements of the SLS/Orion system during integration as well as leading teams responsible for the verification and validation of the KSC ground systems to support the Exploration Mission 1 launch. In addition, he is actively involved in the development of EM-1 launch countdown content and leads launch related trade studies and teams. He has been involved in the Robotic Mining Competition in various roles since inception and is excited to be a judge for the first time in 2016.

Meghan Guethe is the Exhibits Manager on contract at NASA Langley Research Center. In the past she has written fact sheets and articles as a technical writer and editor. She currently works with museums around the United States designing and creating displays regarding NASA content. She also works as a protocol tour host at NASA Langley and staffs at NASA outreach events. She has over 25 years of experience with public outreach.



Montgomery B. Goforth
Strategic Pursuits & Partnerships
Engineering Directorate, NASA JSC
(281) 244-1117
Montgomery.b.goforth@nasa.gov

Background: Mr. Goforth has more than 25 years of experience as both Engineer and Manager in a variety of highly technical space and defense-related efforts. He joined NASA in 1990 as part of the Mission Operations Directorate, working on planning systems and automated procedure execution tools for the International Space Station (ISS). He became Deputy Project Manager for the Portable Computer System, the laptop used for command and control of the ISS, in 1996, and ultimately became Chief of the Branch responsible for all laptops onboard ISS and the Space Shuttle. In 2002 he moved to the ISS Avionics and Software Office as Manager of the Flight Software Development Office and later served as Chief Engineer. During 2005 he spent several months at NASA Headquarters working in the Robotics Lunar Exploration Program. In 2006 he joined the Constellation Program as Chief of Avionics and Software Test and Verification and became Chief of the Software and Avionics Integration Office in 2007. In this role he was responsible for leading a large nation-wide Systems Engineering & Integration (SE&I) organization which provided program-level coordination, oversight, integration and management of the system-of-systems avionics and software, including the coordination of integrated modeling and simulation and test activities across the Constellation program and the technical integration of Constellation's Command, Control, Communications, and Information (C3I) architecture. In 2011, he joined the Avionic Systems Division to support their Strategic Planning and Partnership efforts. In 2015, he moved onto Engineering Directorate Staff to support Strategic Pursuits and Partnerships.

Education: 1987 – MS, Mechanical Engineering, Rice University
1982 – BS, Mechanical Engineering, Rice University

Rebecca Mazzone joined NASA in 2004 as a software developer. Interested in NASA's new exploration goals, she quickly moved on to assignments for NASA's Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD), where she supported Modeling & Simulation for the Constellation program in various technical and leadership roles until its conclusion in 2010. Since then she's been part of the IT Project Management office, continuing to work with simulation teams and supporting other IT-related activities. She is currently providing project management support to the Ground Systems Development and Operations (GSDO) Program for the Orion Exploration Flight Test 1 (EFT-1) mission. Rebecca is a graduate of KSC's inaugural Systems Engineering Advancement & Leadership (SEAL) class. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science and a Master's Degree in Space Systems, both from the Florida Institute of Technology, and a Graduate Certificate from Stevens Institute of Technology in Space Systems Engineering.

Richard J. Lynch is the Deputy Observatory Manager for the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) at the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) in Greenbelt, Maryland. Lynch was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. He worked in launch system integration for several launches of the Titan IV/Centaur. He was the system engineer for the Lunar Prospector. He was the mission manger for the Geosat Follow-on and Orbcomm launch on the Taurus XL. He began working on the JWST in 2000 as the Deputy Mission Systems Engineer and is looking forward to launch in 2018.

He attended Purdue University where he received his Bachelors degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics Engineering in 1990. He attended graduate school at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, earning a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering in 2000. In 2010, he earned a Masters degree in Information System Management from George Washington University.

Sandee Ames is a logistics specialist supporting the Supply and Equipment Management Office within the Spaceport Integration Directorate at Kennedy Space Center. Sandee holds a B.A. in Business from the University of Central Florida and an M.B.A. from Webster University. As a Brevard county native, she grew up watching Shuttle launches in her backyard, which inspired her endeavors to work for NASA. She enjoys spending her free time gardening, cooking and traveling with her family and friends.

Tim Brady currently works in the NASA Engineering and Safety Center's Systems Engineering Office. His work experience includes conducting tests of advanced active thermal control systems, and development of Extravehicular Activity flight hardware. He led development of payloads to demonstrate EVA hardware and operational techniques on 5 shuttle missions and led development of on-orbit tile repair capability after the Columbia accident.

Mr. Brady's education includes a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, a Master degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Kentucky, and a Master's degree in Engineering and Management from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Vanessa has worked at KSC as an Aerospace Engineer since 2000. She spent the bulk of her career working Space Station processing for the Environmental Control and Life Support Systems and Active Thermal Control Systems. During that time she spent a lot of time inside the various Space Station module, on the ground, of course.

After graduating from the NASA Systems Engineering & Leadership Development Program (SELDP) she joined the Ground Systems Development and Operations (GSDO) Systems Engineering & Integration group. She works closely with the Orion Program developing and integrating flight hardware processing requirements.

Vanessa holds a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering Mechanics from The Johns Hopkins University, a Master's Degree in Space Systems from the Florida Institute of Technology, and a certificate from the International Space University Space Studies Program.

This is Vanessa's sixth year supporting the RMC as a judge and volunteer, and is excited to be the "Pit Boss" again.